

INSTITUTE OF NUMISMATIC AUTHENTICATORS

Box 1032 : Berkeley, Calif.

29 March 1968

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This certifies that I have examined the accompanying coin and that I unhesitatingly declare it ~~is~~ genuine and of the description to follow.

It is a 1921 Morgan dollar, struck in what was intended to be proof state, from the identical working dies to the other proofs so far examined including that in the ANS museum. These dies are identifiable by the following criteria? (a) die file mark up from left tip of second U in UNUM, (b) position of date above dentils, (c) nearly horizontal die file marks at ribbon, (d) nearly vertical die file marks at berries nearest ~~U~~ N in UNITED, (e) traces of recutting on T in UNITED. However, the piece, like at least four others seen, is impaired--note cheek scratch and small rim nick below 2--and has been drastically cleaned, possibly with scouring powder, obscuring proof surfaces. Striking qualities are as on other proofs, aside from the scrubbing.

It was represented as having come from Colonel E.H.R. Green. That may mean it is the ~~Green~~ Newcomer-Green-B.G. Johnson--Major Lenox R. ~~H~~ Lohr coin, which was in identical condition when auctioned around 1956. I cannot, however, guarantee the pedigree. If it is the Lohr coin, it is one of the seven I had earlier examined; if a Col. Green duplicate, it is the eighth seen of some 20 to 25 struck.

Regretfully submitted,

Walter Green

For the Institute

At the LNA Convention, August 29

INSTITUTE of NUMISMATIC AUTHENTICATORS

2 Swan Ave

Staten Island N.Y. 10312

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This certifies that I have examined the accompanying coin and that I unhesitatingly declare it authentic. My conclusions are as follows:

It is a 1921 Morgan Dollar proof, from the identical dies to all the other ~~7~~⁷ specimens I have seen: obv.: small die scratch up to r. from 2nd to in UNUM, rev. light scratching at T. PUNITED, vertical die scratches at bases at 8:30, almost horizontal die file marks in bow. Rims & beaded borders comparable to previous proofs 1878-1904, central details likewise (striking quality indicates 2 blows from the press). Of the 8 seen by me, 3 were drastically cleaned. One is in ANS, from these dies. Presumably made in 'very limited' quantity (said to be 24 or 25 struck) for Forno Zerbe. The present coin is one of the most attractive as it has not been drastically cleaned. It is permanently identifiable by $\frac{1}{2}$ ← near brow line, two minute nicks where another coin dropped a/c.

Value estimate must be

guesswork, but as one brilliant & pristine

specimen with ^{unimpaired} surfaces for 2.5 / 10,000 it

is a most valuable specimen. It should be given the highest

Respectfully Submitted

Walter Breen

INSTITUTE of NUMISMATIC AUTHENTICATORS

2 Swain Ave.

Staten Island, NY 10312

14 August 1972

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This certifies that I have examined the accompanying coin and that I unhesitatingly declare it a genuine 1893 CC proof dollar.

Were this coin without a mintmark, nobody could question its proof status. It has every earmark of the genuine article: frosty devices brought up more sharply than on normal business strikes; struck at least twice (as normally on proofs) from brilliantly repolished dies on a lightly polished blank. Border details are as clear as on many Philadelphia (and N.O. and S.F.) proofs...clearer than any may ever be, surpassed only by the most carefully minted proofs.

I had heard of the original 12 proof 1893-CC dollars, coined for distribution at the ceremony closing the Carson City mint, from Wayne Raymond (1951) who had seen at least one from that source. The listing was correct in the Standard Catalogue of U.S. Coins through its final edition (1957), though at that time nobody had managed to trace

examples aside from the one Whyte Raymond had
encountered. (W.R. was likewise the source for
the proof introduced Morgan dollar listings: 1879 C
[2 coins], ceremonial opening of the N.O. mint in February
79; 1883 O [12 coins], for some local celebration.
W.R. found contemporary references to these in old issues
of the Collector's Journal (1878-89 or so), and elsewhere; I
later located one of each of these dates, though the 1893 CC
is still elusive.)

The present coin is permanently identifiable by a
slight nick opposite 4th star from bottom left, and
one other minute mark (where another coin had dropped on it)
in r. reverse field star and to right of arrows. It is
obvious that should another be discovered, it would bear
different identifying marks even if it is from the same
die. The dies, incidentally, differ from the regularly
listed 1893 CC varieties in von Allen's book, largely in first
stroke, peculiar 3 (cross of extra curve at right bottom loop)
and position of CC mintmark. At present it is the only
one I have seen, and I cannot exclude the possibility that
it is the one Whyte Raymond had seen sometime prior to World
War II.
Respectfully submitted, Walter B. [unclear]
for the Exhibit



FIRST COINVESTORS, INC.

F.C.I. BUILDING • 16 MCKINLEY AVE., ALBERTSON, N.Y. 11507 • TEL. 516-294-0040

ANALYSIS AND CERTIFICATION OF 1879-0 SILVER DOLLAR

This certifies that I have examined the accompanying 1879-0 silver dollar and that I unhesitantly declare it an authentic Proof and one of the 12 minted to commemorate the reopening of the New Orleans Mint on February 20, 1879. On detailed comparison with other 1879-0 silver dollars, both normal and Proof-like, and on comparison with the die variety date in the Van Allen and Mallis book, MORGAN DOLLAR DIE VARIETIES, my findings are as follows:

This coin is not identical to any of the varieties listed in the book, being distinguished by recutting in the lower parts of both 8 and 9. This alone would not suffice to establish that it is not from one of the commonly recognized dies used in this year, and it does provide help in identification of any future alleged 1879-0 Proof, as it is presumed that only one pair of dies was used through the limited issue. Far more important in establishing the Proof status of this coin is the processing that was given to the dies, the planchet, and the method of striking. Under high magnification, I find that the planchet and both dies were given uniform polish over the complete fields without any interruptions of other kinds in this polished surface. I find also that the type of surface given to the dies is similar in every way to that given to Philadelphia Mint Proofs of the period, and to every known New Orleans Mint Proof, such as Harry Forman's 1883-0 Proof dollar which appeared at auction a few years ago. I find that this piece was given a minimum of two impressions from the working dies in order to bring out additional detail not visible on any ordinary Uncirculated 1879-0 silver dollar. This detail is readily apparent on comparison with any ordinary Uncirculated Morgan dollar of any date and is entirely comparable to that found on Philadelphia Proof silver dollars. Attention is especially directed to the extreme sharpness of the eagle's breast feathers, claws, legs, inner details of leaves, hairs on Miss Liberty's head and the sprigs of vegetables adorning her cap. The reverse border is at least equal in quality of definition to that of any Philadelphia Mint Proof and superior to some even after Proof only dates such as 1875. There is a partial knife rim as is common to the vast majority of Proofs. The obverse border, although not absolutely equal to the reverse border in quality of definition is nevertheless found to be comparable to that on many of the Proofs minted in that period.

For these reasons I conclude without any margin for doubt that this piece was intentionally made as a Proof and its importance

lies in the fact of its having been manufactured for a known historical occasion, namely, the reopening of the Mint. It is, therefore, comparable in its importance to Bruce Todd's 1893 Carson City Proof dollar, of which the same number of specimens were minted on the occasion of the closing of the Carson City Mint. It is at present equal not only in absolute rarity to the latter - in that 12 of each were made - but also in that these are the only specimens located of either one to date, though one or two more had been known to rumor.

This coin can be identified by a minute lint mark, convex upwards, directly below the lower beak of the eagle, and slightly above a point midway between the beak and claws and the shoulder vertically below. The lint mark results from a tiny fragment of fibre adhering to the surface of a die because of static electricity either in the polishing operation or the striking. It does not constitute an impairment.

If I were asked to place a value on this coin I would be forced to say that I consider it of at least equal value to Bruce Todd's 1893 CC Proof dollar. Because of the documented historical circumstances of its manufacture I consider it one of the most important Branch Mint Proofs ever to come upon the market.

Respectfully Submitted,

FIRST COINVESTORS INC.

Walter Breen

Walter Breen
Vice President

WB:rs

Rare Gold Management
Walter Breen U.S. Type Coin Program
U.S. Silver Dollar Society
Pine Tree Auction Galleries
Coinvestors B.U. Roll Club
U.S. Commemorative Silver Half Dollar Society

FIRST 
COINVESTORS, INC.

Nov. 11, 1983

John Dannreuther
5100 Poplar Ave., #214
Memphis, TN 38137

Dear John:

This certifies that I have examined the accompanying coin, and that I have compared it with others of its kind, and that I unhesitatingly declare it an authentic 1849 Type I proof gold dollar (small head, no L).

The coin in every particular matches other proofs of this issue: surfaces, die state, die identity, striking quality. It is superior to the specimen in ANS or to the scratched piece I formerly owned (later, owned by Lester Merkin, most recently in Kagin's "Sale of the 70s", lot 1497). It is an exact match for the coin in Norman Stack's type set. To date 9 or 10 are traced, of which two are in museums and two in a Philadelphia estate.

My congratulations.

Respectfully submitted,



Walter Breen